



Imagine ...

Academic Success for All African-American Students

Presented by Mona H. Bailey and Erin Jones
At the
Washington Educational Research Association
Conference
Thursday, December 4, 2008

Session agenda



***Addressing the
Achievement
Gap for African
American
Students in WA***

- Welcome and Introductions
- Overview of HB 2722 and the work of the Advisory Committee
- Discussion of Draft Goals
- Closing comments

The community rallied . . .



"We have a powerful potential in our youth, and we must have the courage to change old ideas and practices so that we may direct their power toward good ends."

--Mary McLeod Bethune

- Education is a top priority for the Commission of African-American Affairs
- The Black Education Strategy Roundtable is formed in 2006
- Rep. Pettigrew sponsors HB 2722 in the 2008 Legislative Session
- HB 2722 is signed into law on April 1, 2008

. . . and the legislature responded

House Bill 2722

- **Recognizes the specific needs of African-American students**
- **Identifies families, schools and the community as key partners to develop and implement ideas**
- **Authorizes a plan to eliminate the education gap**

The numbers paint a picture

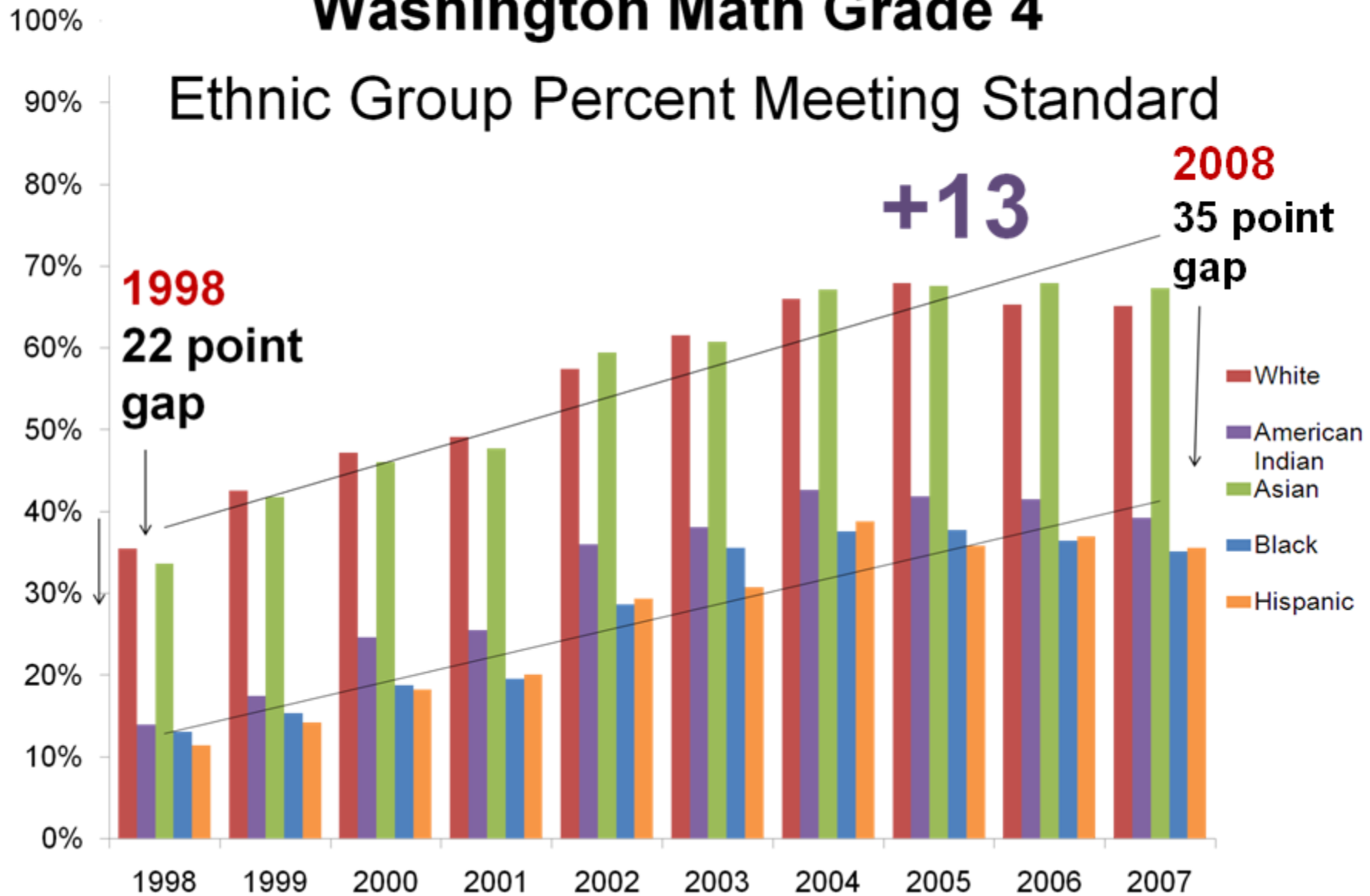
- 56,774 African-American students in WA, six percent of K-12 student enrollment
- African-American students:
 - 3.5 percent are in Spokane County
 - 6.7 percent are in Snohomish County
 - 26.5 percent are in Pierce County
 - 44.9 percent are in King County
- African-American students make up more than 20 percent of the students in Tukwila, Tacoma, Seattle and Clover Park School Districts

We face a growing crisis . . .

- Over 30 percent of African-American students in Washington state are not graduating on time
- 23.6 percent of African-American students drop out of school between 9th and 12th grade
- Although African American students are six percent of Washington's student population:
 - ✓ Only two percent are in gifted programs
 - ✓ Nearly 17 percent are in special education
- Performance on the WASL has improved, but there are still gaps

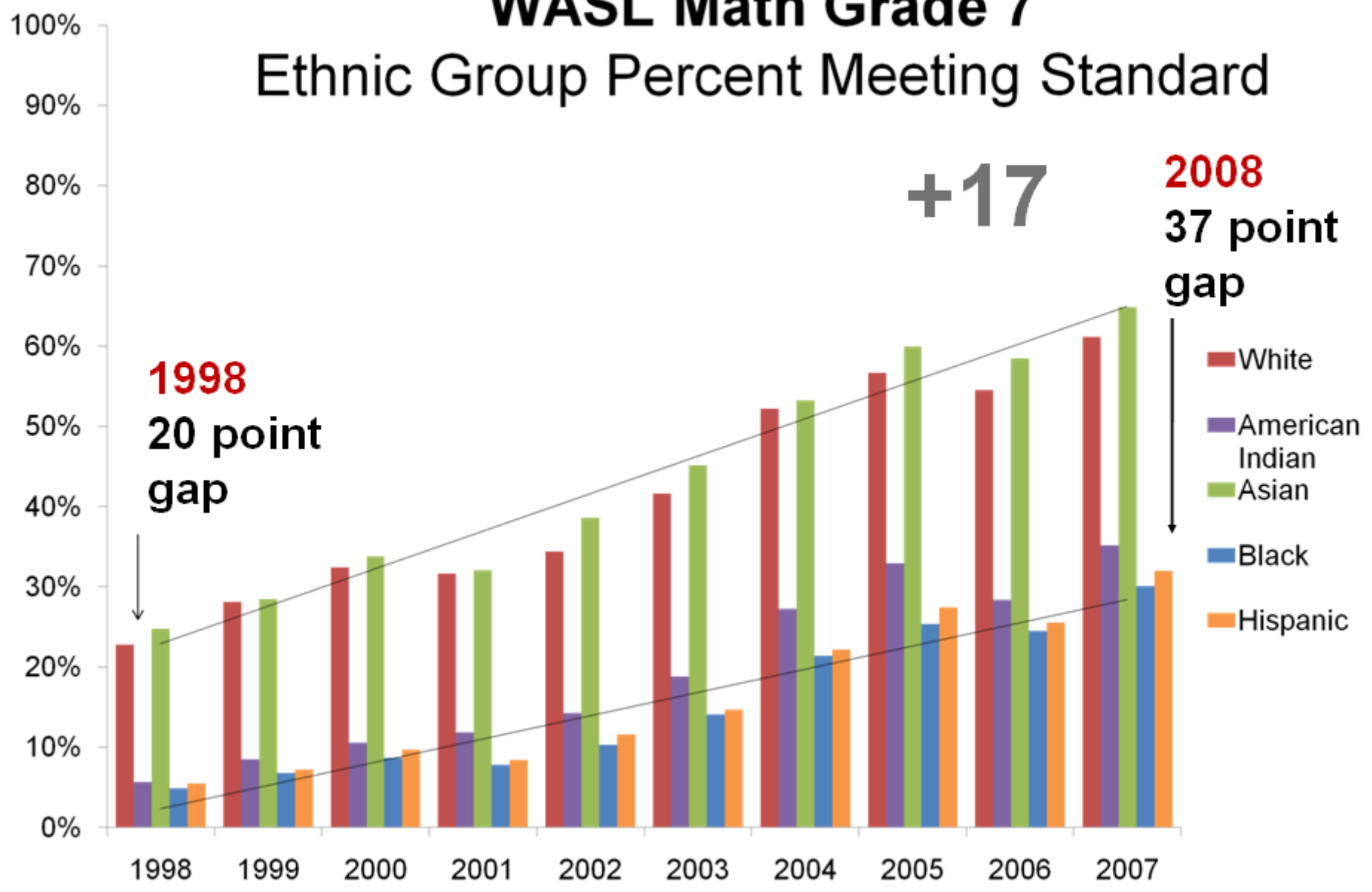
Washington Math Grade 4

Ethnic Group Percent Meeting Standard



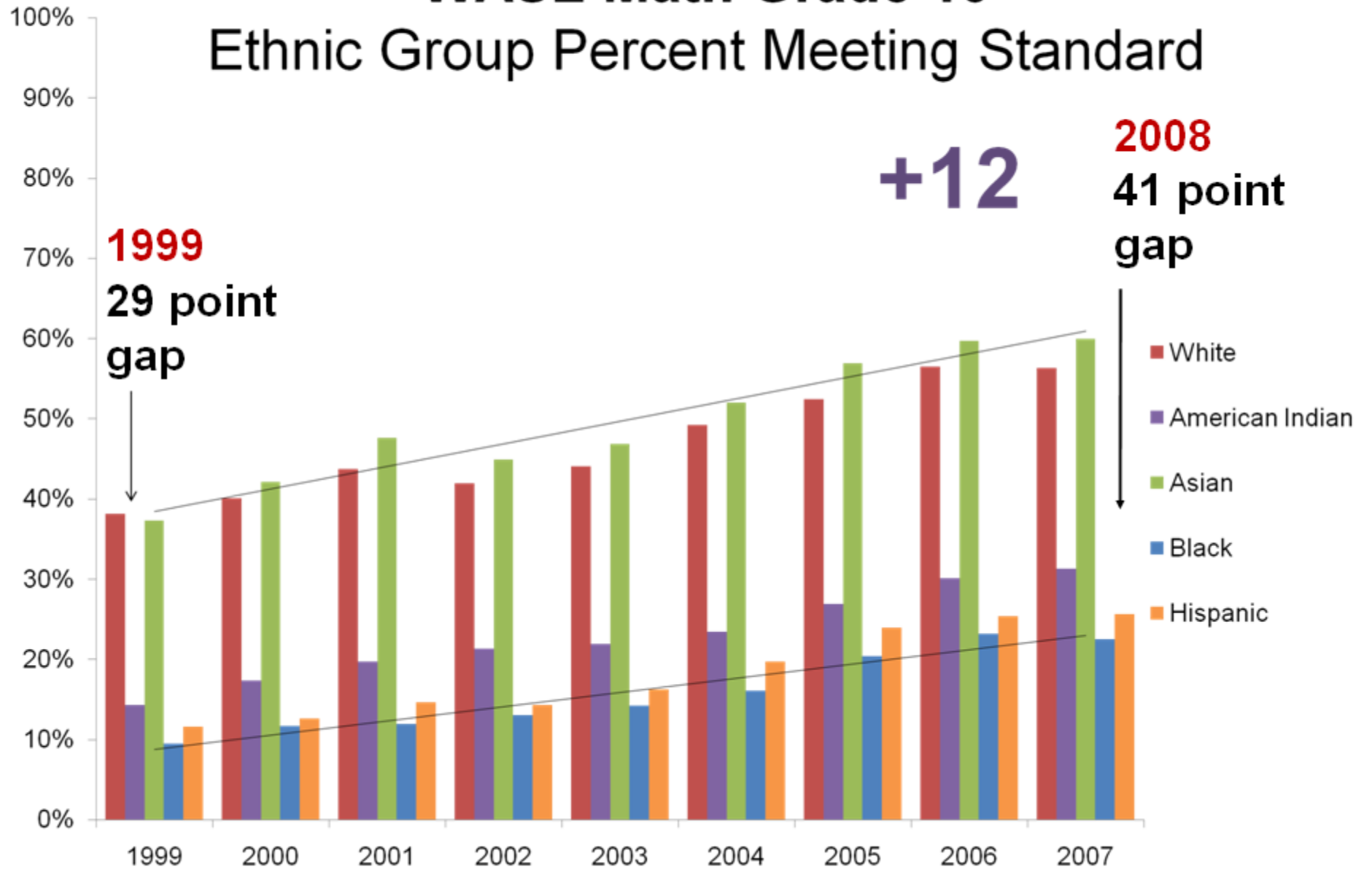
WASL Math Grade 7

Ethnic Group Percent Meeting Standard



WASL Math Grade 10

Ethnic Group Percent Meeting Standard



The gaps persist

WASL READING: 18-23 points

WASL WRITING: 12-24 points

SAT READING: 85 points

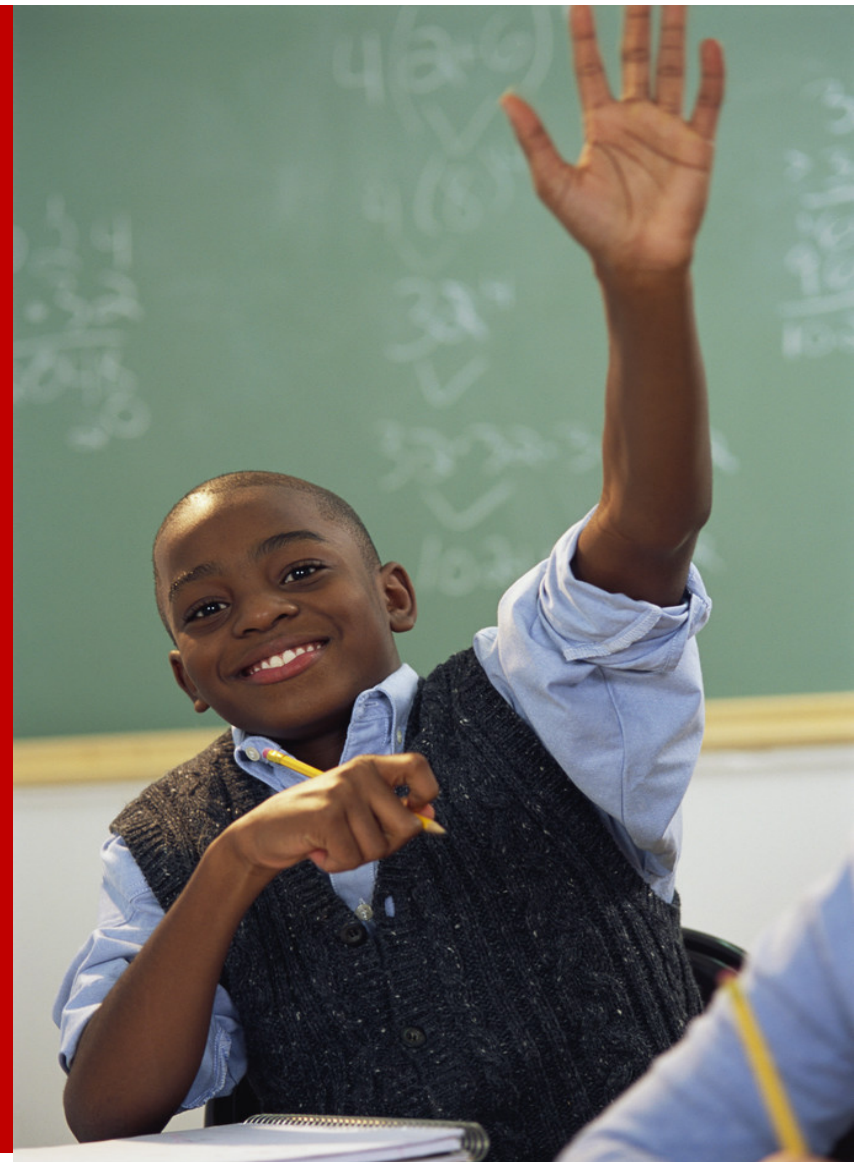
SAT WRITING: 80 points

SAT MATH: 113 points

Did you know?

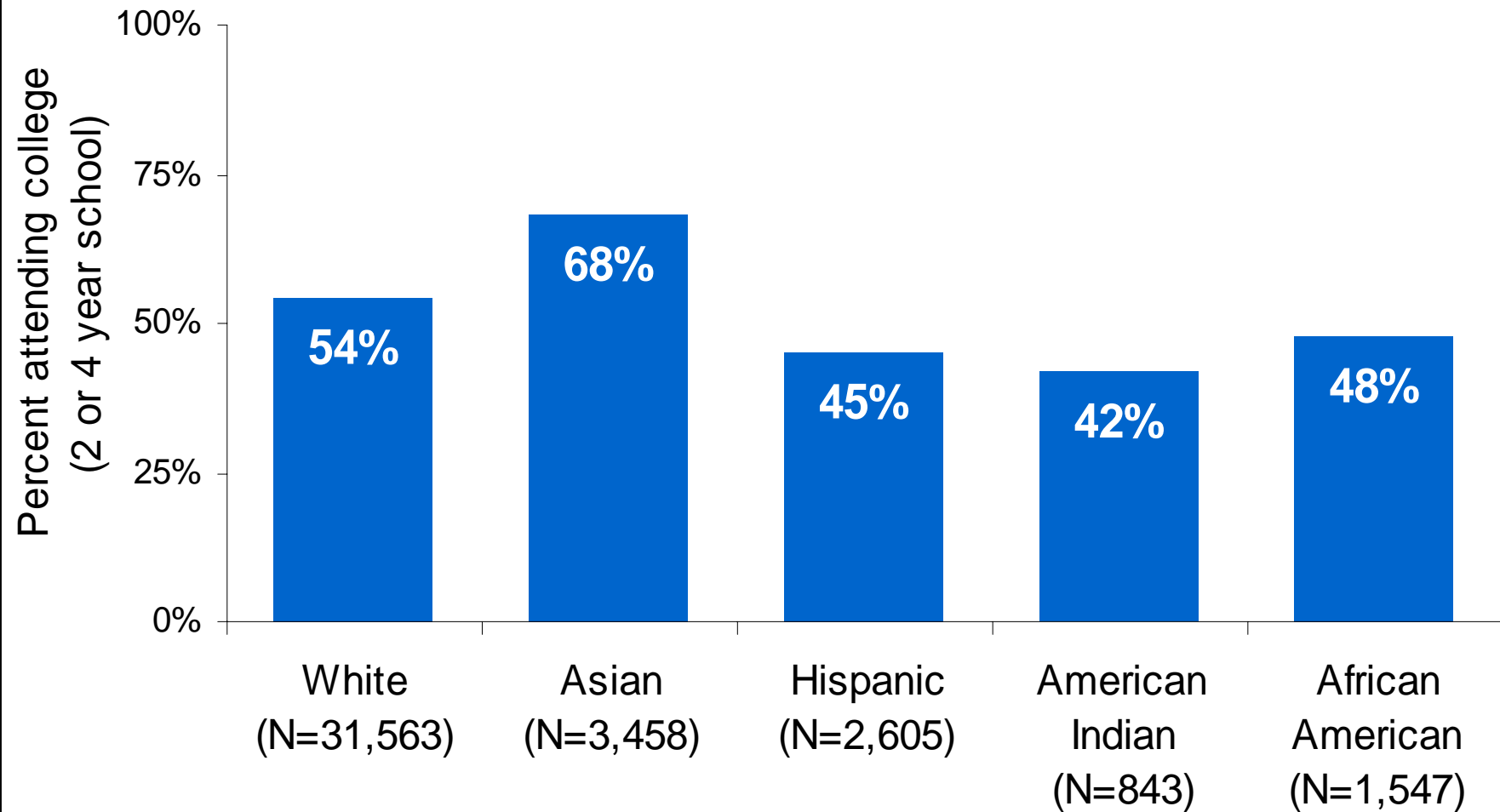
By 2014, 77 percent of jobs paying a livable family wage will require education beyond high school.

Yet, today's high school graduates may not be prepared for post-secondary opportunities.



We need more progress

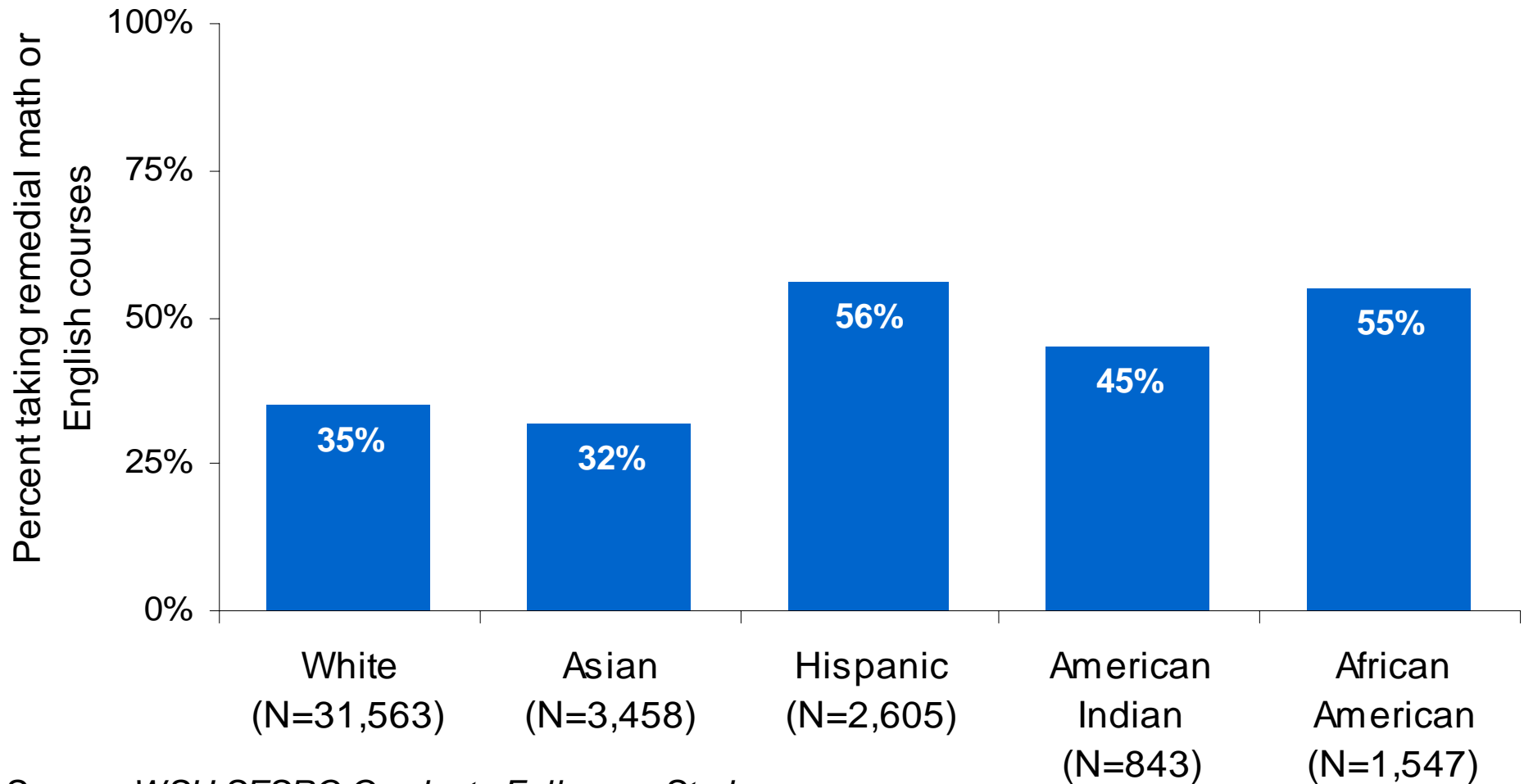
College Attendance in Washington State, 2005



Source: WSU-SESRC Graduate Follow-up Study

We need better preparation

Remediation in College, Washington State, 2005



Source: WSU-SESRC Graduate Follow-up Study.

NOTE: Percentages are based on those attending college.

We have a new opportunity

HB 2722 authorizes a strategic plan that contains:

- **Goals** that promote change
- Recommended state **policies** with funding needs
- **Strategies** for districts, schools and communities to consider
- **Benchmarks** to monitor progress over time

DRAFT Goal #1

Early Learning

By 2014, provide all three- to five-year old African-Americans with high quality and academically focused early education to prepare them for success in school.

DRAFT Goal #2

Teacher Quality

By 2014, ensure that all teachers in schools with 20 percent or more African-American students are highly qualified and trained to meet unique student needs.

DRAFT Goal #3

K-12

Increase the on-time graduation rate for African-American students to close the gap by 2014, and ensure that all graduates are college- and career-ready.

DRAFT Goal #4

Higher Education

- Apprenticeships
- Vocational Schools
- Community college
- Four- year college

Increase the number of African-American students entering and completing higher education without remediation, to close the gap by 2018.

Strategies

1. Family & Community Engagement
2. Student Support
3. Teaching & Learning
4. Teacher Quality
5. Leadership



Share your feedback

- This WERA conference session an opportunity to inform the strategic plan
- Your feedback will help the committee make recommendations that will make every school a great place for our children



Goals guide systemic change

Early Learning

1 Provide all three- to five-year olds with high quality and academically focused early education.

Teacher Quality

2 Ensure that all teachers are highly qualified and trained to meet unique student needs.

K-12

3 Increase the on-time graduation rate and ensure that all graduates are college-and career-ready.

Higher Education

4 Increase the number of students entering and completing higher education without remediation.

What's next?

- Advisory committee will deliver its strategic plan December 30, 2008

- 2009 Legislature will consider these recommendations and related funding



Stay connected.

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